

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 5 are independent. In this Amendment, claims 1-3 and 5-7 have been amended. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in, for example, paragraphs [0026], [0027], and [0031] of the specification.

Patentability under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5 recited the limitation “each signal tone level” in line 10. The Examiner asserted that there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation.

In response, the claim has been amended to replace the limitation with -- an individual tile of the tile display pattern -- in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Patentability under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jun et al. (JP 2001-313953A, hereinafter “Jun”) is respectfully traversed.

Jun does not identically disclose a display device including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Specifically, the reference does not disclose, among other things, “gamma adjusting means for displaying an adjusted state having (1) an adjustment pattern signal comprising a gamma-corrected pattern for gamma adjustment and (2) a gamma correction value wherein the gamma-corrected pattern is a tile display pattern of a gray scale corresponding to a gamma adjustment point,” as now recited in claim 1.

Jun describes adjusting colors for a color imaging device. In more detail, the reference describes obtaining an image of a white-colored subject to adjust a white balance for the color imaging device such that a tone of the colors in the image of the white-colored subject on a screen are adjusted to be similar to one of four tones in gray scale pattern 70 (see Fig. 3).

In the Office Action, the Examiner identified gray scale pattern 70 of Jun as the claimed adjustment pattern signal. However, Applicants submit that Jun's gray scale pattern 70 does not correspond to the claimed adjustment pattern signal.

Gray scale pattern 70 of Jun is a fixed pattern. The subject image (the white-colored subject image) displayed on screen 61 can be adjusted by pushing red and blue buttons 66 and 68 to change the colors of the subject image in accordance with the fixed gray scale pattern 70 (see Fig. 3 of Jun). In particular, a user compares the subject image displayed on screen 61 and gray scale pattern 70, and adjusts the tones of the subject image. When the tone of the subject image becomes close to any of four tones in fixed gray scale pattern 70, it is determined that the white balance adjustment is completed (see paragraph [0039] of Jun).

In contrast, an adjustment pattern signal including a gamma-corrected pattern is displayed on a screen together with a gamma correction value and a gamma-corrected still image on the same screen in the claimed subject matter. In accordance with the adjustment pattern signal including the gamma-corrected pattern, a user can easily review a gamma-corrected state ("adjusted state" in claim 1) to find which tone should be adjusted. That is, the gamma-adjustment to any tone can be easily executed by referring to a relevant tone in the adjustment pattern signal. The claimed subject matter is apparently different from Jun's white balance adjustment using an image of a white colored subject compared with fixed gray scale pattern 70.

Based on the foregoing, Jun does not identically disclose a display device including all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Dependent claim 2 is also patentably distinguishable over Jun at least because the claim includes all the limitations recited in independent claim 1. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and favorable reconsideration thereof.

Patentability under 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. The rejection of claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jun is respectfully traversed.

Claims 3 and 4 depend on independent claim 1. Applicants thus incorporate herein the arguments made in response to the rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation as evidenced by Jun. The Examiner's additional comments do not cure the deficiencies of June. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and favorable reconsideration thereof.

2. The rejection of claims 5-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jun in view of Taka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,992,796, hereinafter "Taka") is respectfully traversed.

Jun and Taka, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a display device including all the limitations recited in independent claim 5. Specifically, the applied combination does not teach, among other things, the following limitations of claim 5:

a memory configured to store a gamma correction characteristic comprising adjustment tones having values from a lowest adjustment tone value to a highest adjustment tone value, a tile display pattern in which each value of the adjustment tones of said gamma correction characteristic respectively corresponds to an individual tile of the tile display pattern, and an adjustment value for each of said adjustment tones;... and

a menu display unit configured to display a gamma adjustment menu showing adjustment tone levels of the respective adjustment tones together with the gamma-corrected input image signal on the same screen.

Jun does not teach executing a gamma correction for an input video signal which includes all tones from a lowest tone level to a highest tone level in order for all the tones of the input video signal to be gamma-adjusted. Jun describes a white balance adjustment using an image of a white colored subject to be compared with four-tone fixed gray scale pattern 70 (see paragraph [0039]). Accordingly, Jun is silent on, among other things, the claimed limitations “each value of the adjustment tones of said gamma correction characteristic respectively corresponds to an individual tile of the tile display pattern.”

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserted that Taka, the secondary reference, teaches the claimed menu display unit. However, Taka merely teaches adjustment tone levels having a lowest adjustment tone value to a highest adjustment tone level. The reference does not teach that the adjustment tone levels are displayed together with a gamma-corrected input image signal.

Accordingly, even if the applied combination of Jun and Taka is assumed proper for the sake of this response, the applied combination does not result in the claimed subject matter.

Based on the foregoing, Jun and Taka, individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a display device including all the limitations recited in independent claim 5. Dependent claims 6-8 are also patentably distinguishable over Jun and Taka at least because the claims respectively include all the limitations recited in independent claim 5. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and favorable reconsideration thereof.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application should be allowed and the case passed to issue. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated to expedite the prosecution of the application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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